Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting

Date: August 13, 1999   **Time:** 10:00 a.m.

Location: Lewis Cass Bldg., 6th Floor, North Wing, Dept. of Management and Budget, Director's Conference Room

Scheduled Time			Actual Time		
Start	Stop	Total Hours	Start	Stop	Total Hours
10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	2	10:00 a.m.	12:00 a.m.	2

MEETING MINUTES

I. Geographic Framework Project

A. MIC Project Update

1. TIGER to MIRIS Conflation (Phase 1) Status

Rob Surber distributed a current Phase 1 status map indicating that all counties (except for southeast Michigan area) have been completed. The last county, Cheboygan County, was completed on August 10. This data is available and is being distributed on an FTP site.

2. MALI to GIS Conflation (Phase 2a) Status

Rob Surber distributed a current Phase 2a status map indicating that 22 counties are underway and 4 counties have already been completed. Currently there are 15 staff people in the MIC working on Phase 2. MIC is adding all transportation referencing information to the base map. MDOT or any agency can do business on it. The MIC is waiting for updated Act 51 maps. All of Phase 2 will be updated with 1998 Act 51 certified road maps. Other sources are being used for private roads. There are a lot of trailer park roads and condo roads that will be added. The MIC is having trouble tracking down roads for counties in the Upper Peninsula. They have been working with Peter O'Grady, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, and using the Forest Service's number scheme to identify roads. Where data is hard to read, they would like to use a digital product if available.

3. Phase 2b Status

Rob Surber reported that the MIC is updating addresses. The biggest problem area is around the lakes. The MIC will do what they can then send the maps to the county for them to do the rest of the work. The MIC has been working with quite a few local agencies and has incorporated their work into the map. They are trying to partner with as many groups as possible.

B. Framework Update and Maintenance

1. Southwest Michigan Commission Potential Partnership

Rob Surber reported that he made a presentation to the Southwest Michigan Commission (Van Buren, Cass, and Berrien Counties.) The meeting was basically an informational meeting. These counties are interested in playing a role in the update and maintenance of the base map. The counties would like to play a quality assurance role, similar to the role that is currently working out with Northwest

Michigan Council of Governments.

2. Hillsdale County Partnership

Rob Surber reported that hard copy maps of the Phase 2 product were sent to Hillsdale County as part of the pilot program. The 'theme base' approach is being used with Hillsdale County. The Equalization Office, the Road Commission, and the Drain Commission are each providing information for their select areas. For example the Drain Commission is identifying hydrography and providing local drain names, which differ from the official U.S.G.S. names. The county is indentifying private roads - i.e. driveways and right-of-ways. To date, the MIC has had one map returned to them by the Drain Commission. John Clark, DEQ, will review these maps as well. Rob stated that he hopes to eventually have a digital exchange. He will continue to the report progress to the group.

3. Address Standards Workshop

Rob Surber reported that he attended a meeting in Kalamazoo County where he discussed address coordination with city and township clerks. He will also be speaking to Oakland County, Kent County, and Grand Traverse County clerks. There is a need to clean up communities' addresses statewide. The Postal Service address management team at the local and district levels, and GIS coordinators are also invited to attend the county meetings and to get involved.

4. NSDI Clearinghouse

Rob Surber reported that the MIC has been selected to receive a grant - scheduled to take effect in October. The $40,000 grant will be used to establish a partnership between IMAGIN and the MIC to explore framework Metadata issues. The MIC has one staff person currently working on Metadata. The goal of the clearinghouse is to make sure that the framework data is Federal Geographic Data Committee (FDGC) compliant. The MIC will meet with IMAGIN soon to work on details. This effort is not meant to duplicate any work that has been done in the past, but it is meant to look at issues not currently covered by IMAGIN. Rob Surber also reported that the MIC is working with United States Geological Survey (U.S.G.S.) to develop an innovative partnership. They will address road data models, attempt to keep road information current, and hope to have a technical data exchange. Rob is waiting to hear back from U.S.G.S. and will then report to the group.

5. REGIS Project

Rob Surber reported that Kent and Ottawa Counties are working with the Convergent Group. The goal of the Convergent Group is to develop a draft document regarding reconciliation. The Convergent Group wants to implement their GIS according to the framework standards. Rob Surber reported that he recently attended an Address Reconciliation Workshop - assessors, planning agencies, and road commissions were also in attendance. Some of the goals of the workshop were to expedite a consensus for the standardization of the address assigning process; expedite a consensus for standardization of the address storage format; discuss various ideas for address reconciliation and cleanup; and discuss maintenance responsibilities. The group plans to reconvene in September to finalize and implement the plan. Rob will share the information in an ongoing basis. The Metro Council will be an authoritative body to serve as a go between. They will be attending the Address Reconciliation meetings to observe and determine what their role may be.

C. SEMCOG Project Update

Delores Andaluz distributed a copy of the current status report for the SEMCOG seven county area. SEMCOG has taken a different approach - they begin with the linear referencing system, then TIGER update, conflation, and conflation cleanup. All seven counties are through the linear referencing system and the TIGER update processes. Livingston, St. Clair, and Washtenaw Counties are completely through the conflation process and Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, Monroe Counties will be done next. The rest of the conflation process will be to clean up errors. Conflation clean up doesn't mean that the whole file is cleaned - the steps include: arc splits and clean up of MCD and village boundaries. Census polygon clean up will be post -conflation steps. St. Clair and Washtenaw Counties are complete and ready to be sent to the MIC. Livingston County will be done by the end of August. The MIC and MDOT will update linear referencing system change transactions to make data consistent statewide. The SEMCOG county framework geography is based on 1995 data – the version that was used will be useful information to know upon distribution. Wayne and Oakland Counties are interested in conflating the framework to their own centerline files. Counties are interested in Michigan Geographic Framework for their computer aided dispatch systems. Counties should be informed as to how the address ranges are stated. Not all addresses are shown in a range, this is especially important for 9-1-1. Rob Surber, MIC, reported that abnormal addresses will be identified. The arc will be flagged when there is an exception.

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II. MDNR Projects and Activities

Gary Bilow reported that the MDNR is establishing a mapping center in their Roscommon office. The MDNR has two permanent full-time staff members for this project. They will concentrate on getting GIS to the field managers.

Gary Bilow also reported that the MDNR has designated three employees to begin working with the MIC on October 1, 1998. The MDNR has begun a Michigan GeoRef (MGR) projection comparison project, which will assess distortion that may be incurred by using the MGR projection. The preliminary results indicate that the distortion is small. Gary will have graphics to show results. The MDNR will be comparing how distortion varies between major software packages.

Gary Bilow reported that the MDNR and MDMB are working on acquiring digital orthos for southeast Michigan - there is a vendor who wants to sell ortho photos to them and the DNR is pursuing an innovative partnership with U.S.G.S. to do digital ortho photos. Rob Surber stated that the MIC is interested in getting leaf off information for transportation features. Some data is 1998 and some is 1999 - it is important to make sure data is consistent.

III. MDOT Projects and Activities

Joyce Newell stated that they are interested in assigning bridge attributes to the framework. There are 12,500+ bridges. Bridges are attributed to nodes where two roads cross or where the bridge crosses a river. Where a bridge crosses a gorge, a node will have to added to the line. To date, one pilot county has been done and the process worked well.

Gil Chesbro stated that MDOT will lead a 1999 cooperative needs study. This will be a study of all the transportation needs in Michigan. They will be looking at GIS to assess their needs.

Gil Chesbro also stated that the statewide trunkline sufficiency study will be wrapped up this calendar year. As a pilot study, GPS data was collected while the sufficiency data was collected. The GPS data will be compared to the base map for planning purposes. They also collected GPS data on bridges in Mecosta County. The result were compared to framework and data matches very well.

Joyce Newell stated that MDOT is required to sample roads for federal information every 2 years.

IV. MIC Projects and Activities

    A. State of Michigan Geographic Information Policy Council

Rob Surber reported that representatives from each state department attended the first Geographic Information Policy Council meeting. They arrived at two action items: 1. Review of draft documentation for the state GIS strategic plan. 2. Create an inventory of needs for state agencies and to determine how this applies to federal, county, and local governments. Rob will continue to report the progress to this group.

    B. Executive Information System

Rob Surber reported that the Executive Information System is a new initiative. Within the next few weeks the MIC will look at a pilot program to incorporate the framework via Internet application. The pilot will initially identify how to control network lines and to determine how fast the server response is, and to determine if dedicated lines are required. The plan is to use ArcView on the Internet and hopefully this will be a visable window for framework.

V. MDEQ Projects and Activities

Rob Surber reported for Steve Miller that DEQ is working to locate contaminated sites using the framework as a reference by using street addresses. The MSU Center for Remote Sensing and GIS is preparing training materials and will first train the GEM Centers on how to use framework and then local health departments.

There may also be a pilot project to conflate EPS River Reach data to the framework. The MDEQ is planning a meeting to talk about a pilot project to apply linear references to hydrography, hopefully to begin in the fall of 1998.

VI. SEMCOG Projections and Activities

1. Delores Andaluz, SEMOCG, reported that SEMCOG is communicating with Detroit Edison regarding maintenance of the framework. SEMCOG has received right-of-way and centerline files from Detroit Edison for four townships in Washtenaw county. These files are accurate to within 2-5 feet. They are updated daily with names and addresses. SEMCOG will look at the differences between framework and right-of-way files, and discuss definition of roads. 2. SEMCOG will reposition roads to correct obvious errors. The data being used is SEMCOG's 1995 data while Detroit Edison's data is up-to-date.

Delores Andaluz stated that the SEMCOG GIS Regional Committee created working subcommittees to discuss data standards, development and application, promotion funds, data sharing, and education and training. With numerous subcommittees, people have the option to select areas that are of interest to them. The next meeting is scheduled for November 5 at 1:30 at SEMCOG. The meeting will address FOIA issues and types of information that may be published on web site. For more information, contact Jerry Rowe, SEMCOG. More information may be obtained on the SEMCOG website.

Tina Scott, Dept. of State, asked if the MIC had done any work regarding FOIA.

Rob Surber, MIC, responded that no work has been done formally. This is an issue that will be addressed by the Michigan Geographic Information Policy Council.

Joyce Newell, Dept. of Transportation, asked if the enhanced access issue will also be addressed.

Rob Surber, MIC, responded that it will be looked at more in the future.

VII. Tri-County Regional Planning Commission Projects and Activities

Melissa Scott, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, reported that Wayne State University is beginning to build transit database and Tri-County supplied them with data for the Capitol Area Transportation Authority.

Rob Surber, MIC, reported that several Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) in the state are requesting framework data. They are using a phased-in approach.

VIII. MSU Center for Remote Sensing and GIS Projects and Activities

Nothing to report.

IX. County/Local Projects and Activities

Dave Tijerina, Lansing City, stated that there is not much to report at this time. The city received a sample from Michigan State Industries, will review and then will contact MSI.

Jon Edelman, Ionia County, stated that they are ready to break into the GIS world. The county has created a digital map in autocad using property tax descriptions. The Road Commission used MIRIS to map certified roads.

Rob Surber, MIC, commented that he would be interested in talking to Ionia County about sharing information.

Eric Mullen, Genesee County Planning, reported that they have received hard copy maps from the U.S. Bureau of the Census for redelineating block groups. They completed Davidson Township as a pilot to determine time requirements.

X. U.S. Census Bureau Regional Office TIGER Update

Rob Surber, MIC, reported that the U.S. Bureau of the Census is continuing with the LUCA program around the state.

XI. Federal Projects and Activities

Steve Aichele, U.S.G.S., is working with DEQ on checking basins and sharing information. They are also working with Oakland County data using Oakland County's GPS points and comparing them with address matched points. None of the points differ more than the width of a property. The U.S.G.S. is interested in incorporating watershed boundaries into the framework.

Roger Gauthier, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, distributed a ledger sheet displaying 'Michigan and Wisconsin DOQQ and DOP Coverage' and an 8 1/2" X 11" sheet displaying 'Digital Elevation Model (DEM) Availability.' The work was done by U.S.G.S. and other players. The color infrared (IR) leaf off photography was not collected for southern Michigan due to the early emergence of leaves this spring. The contractors didn't get the entire state shot during the window of opportunity. The remainder of color IR photography is now scheduled for spring of 1999. Van Buren, Ottawa, Muskegon Counties had film available and they flew their counties.

Roger Gauthier stated that there is a need to establish partnerships with counties, townships, state, etc. There is a need to access parcel records. They also need to access to the framework files. Governmental units want projects by political unit not quadrangle boundaries.

Roger Gauthier stated that Ottawa County cut several copies of digital orthos: two for U.S.G.S., two for the state, and one for the county. They are currently awaiting labels to be printed for the Jewell cases. They found the accuracy of the digital orthos to be good and are providing set of digital orthos to Grand Haven. They expect delivery of the 1997 digital orthos to be ready within the month.

Roger Gauthier referred to the (8 1/2" X 11") sheet that had been distributed and explained that the 1998 elevation data used to create digital orthos (blue area) is complete. The portion displayed in black was generated by the contractor. The 24,000 scale elevation models will be available September 30, 1998. They used 1997 color IR photography for the pilot project in Ottawa County. Trying to improve accuracy with more ground control points. The enhanced accuracy was 5-7' worse case positional accuracy. They are hoping to cost share this project. They are updating land use change for coastal townships 1977 to 1997.

During the next fiscal year they will develop innovative partnerships with counties on the coastal zone to foster development of parcel base mapping. The county DOQs are important to be able to produce accurate parcel mapping. They want to use 1998 imagery for land use update for coastal townships. They would like to move on to Lakes Huron and Superior, but are hoping for innovative funding. They will be spending time developing server strategies of data sets available in the Detroit office. There will be a conference call in a week including state mapping agencies in Michigan and Wisconsin, state GIS functions, and U.S.G.S. The purpose of the call is to discuss creating a digital rastor graphics clearinghouse plan., costs, charges, strategies for the framework, MIRIS based DLGs since cultural features are not included in the framework. Roger is pushing the U.S.G.S. to release the map that was produced.

XII. Michigan Utilities Projects and Activities

Nothing to report.

XIII. Other Issues

Cary Adragna, Michigan State Industries (MSI), displayed maps that have been produced by MSI. A booklet was distributed which explained the services provided by MSI. They intend to find out the needs of state government. MSI is attending the meeting to show who they are and what they do. They displayed a map of a village in which they had done parcel mapping. Cary discussed the up-to-date hardware they use. They are modeling their program after the state of Texas's program, which has quadrupled their business in a short period of time. MSI is working closely with the private sector and government agencies to do the field work (such as collection of GPS points) since MSI staff cannot leave the prison area.

Jim Best, MSI, stated that the inmates are experienced in ArcInfo and AutoCad. The inmates are incarcerated in Lakeland. They have six experienced people who are very good and are working out well. There are another 6-12 inmates who are ready to walk in and go to work. The inmates are professional in their questions. Jim is the operations manager for project and is very proud of the work that is being done.

Bill Forbes, an MSI engineer, stated that he trains the prisoners. There are 2-3 lead prisoners who share information with the others. At this point, the lead prisoners have gone beyond Bill's abilities. Cary Adranga, MSI, stated that if anyone is interested, tours can be given of the facilities. They anticipate this project to double or triple in no time.

Rob Surber, MIC, asked if MSI has found that constant staff turnover to be a problem?

Cary Adranga, MSI, responded that up to this point, they haven't experienced problems. Things seem to go smoothly.

Bill Forbes, MSI, stated that the prisoners earn 34 cents per hour, and they understand that they

will have viable occupation when released from prison.

Cary Adranga, MSI, stated that this work teaches prisoners a skill, gets them out of their cells, and gives them something to do. Prisoners know when trained, they will find a job when out of prison. Most prisoners have never had a 9-5 job.

Bill Forbes, MSI, stated that the prisoners work 6.5 hour shifts. MSI is trying to get around security concerns – the prisoners have to go back for lunch and a head count.

Delores Andaluz, SEMCOG, asked what the next level for the prisoners will be.

Bill Forbes, MSI, stated that two inmates have ArcInfo AML experience.. Inmates take ArcInfo books to their cells and study on their own. MSI doesn't want to compete with private sector.

XIV. Next Meeting Date

Thursday, September 10, 1998, 10 a.m. until noon, Lewis Cass Building, 320 S. Walnut, Lansing, MI 48933, 6th Floor, North Wing, Dept. of Community Health, Director's Conference Room.

For directions, call the Michigan Information Center at (517) 373-7910.

Note - The 'PERSONS ATTENDING' portion of the minutes will be mailed quarterly.

**If any changes or corrections are to be made to these minutes, please contact the Michigan Information Center at (517) 373-7910